Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 ACDA-12 MCE-00 AID-05 IGA-02 TRSE-00 OMB-01 L-03 H-01 EB-08 /077 R

DRAFTED BY PM/SAS:CCECIL:RF APPROVED BY PM/SAS - FCORRY DOD/DSAA - LT. GEN. FISH NEA/AFN - MR. WILKINSON

-----030322 171415Z /45

R 171258Z JAN 78 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY TUNIS INFO SECDEF DA WASHDC USASAC ALEXANDRIA VA USCINCEUR

CONFIDENTIAL STATE 012231

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, TS

SUBJECT: ADDITIONAL MISSILE PURCHASE BY GOT

REF: TUNIS 0088 DTG 061103Z JAN 78

1. IN RESPONSE TO REFTEL WE DO NOT RECOMMEND THAT EMBASSY BRING UP THE MIM-72D CHAPARRAL MODEL AS AN OPTION FOR TUNISIA. DEFENSE CANNOT, AT THIS TIME, DEVELOP DETAILED ESTIMATED PRICE AND AVAILABILITY INFO; HOWEVER, D MODEL COULD COST UP TO \$80-90,000 PER MISSILE AND WOULD NOT BE AVAILABLE UNTIL FY 81 AT THE EARLIEST. THERE NO LONGER IS AN ONGOING D MODEL PROGRAM, AND THE PROGRAM TO MODIFY MISSILES TO D CONFIGURATION WOULD HAVE TO BE RESUMED. CONFIDENTIAL

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THEREFORE, BOTH COST AND AVAILABILITY WOULD BE CONTINGENT ON SUCH UNCERTAIN FACTORS AS DATES ON WHICH COUNTRY REQUEST SUBMITTED AND APPROVED AS WELL AS ON NUMBER OF D TYPE MISSILES ORDERED.

2. FYI. AS FURTHER BACKGROUND, THE SO CALLED D MODEL WAS THE RESULT OF A ONE-TIME MODIFICATION OF A NUMBER OF

A MISSILES FOR ONE SPECIFIC SALE. IT DID NOT INCLUDE THE ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY GUIDANCE SYSTEM IN THE IMPROVED CHAPARRAL - C MODEL - BUT DID INCLUDE THE C MODEL WARHEAD AND FUZE WHICH RESULTED IN A MODEST IMPROVEMENT IN ITS

LETHALITY. END FYI.

3. WE DO NOT BELIEVE THAT THE D MODEL OFFERS ENOUGH IMPROVEMENT OVER THE A TO TAX TUNISIA'S LIMITED RESOURCES WITH PROSPECT OF PROCURING A D MODEL AT SIGNIFICANTLY HIGHER COSTS THAN CURRENT ESTIMATED PRICE FOR A MODEL OF \$55,903 PER MISSILE. CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

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